



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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January Farm Labor

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 16,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of January 10-16, 2010, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Hired workers worked an average of 40.0 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$11.24 per hour.

There were 767,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 10-16, 2010, down 2 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 587,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 180,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.06 per hour during the January 2010 reference week, up 13 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.14 per hour, up 18 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$10.26 per hour compared with \$10.27 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.19 per hour, was up 11 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 37.3 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down 3 percent from a year ago.

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